

## Message Text

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SUBJECT: US-USSR HEALTH COOPERATION (03.00) JOINT COMMITTEE  
MEETING

1. THE US JOINT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH COOPERATION MET IN MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD OCTOBER 25/29. THE MEMORANDUM OF DISCUSSIONS, SIGNED BY CO-CHAIRMEN DR. COOPER AND DR. VENEDICTOV OCTOBER 29, EXPRESSES SATISFACTION WITH PROGRESS IN ALL SEVEN MAJOR AREAS OF COOPERATION UNDER THE HEALTH AGREEMENT, AND NOTES THAT COOPERATION THIS YEAR HAS RESULTED IN 80 SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS AND SIX MAJOR SYMPOSIA.

2. NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE PAST YEAR INCLUDE IMPROVEMENT IN ARTIFICIAL HEART DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT OF EXTENSIVE DATA ON THE POSSIBLE RELATION OF BLOOD LIPOPROTEINS TO HEART DISEASE, EXTENSIVE EXCHANGES AND JOINT TESTING OF MATERIALS FOR CANCER CHEMOTHERAPY, DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOSSARY OF TERMS FOR JOINT WORK ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, THE COORDINATION OF DEFINITIONS AND CRITERIA FOR COOPERATION ON ARTHRITIS AND MATHEMATICAL MODELLING AND THERAPEUTIC RESEARCH ON INFLUENZA AND OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES. IN THE SLOWEST STARTING OF THE COOPERATION AREAS, THE PHYSICAL BASIS FOR SCHIZOPHRENIA, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON DEVELOPING COOPERATION IN PHARMACOKINETICS.

3. AN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE, HELD OCTOBER 27, REVIEWED VARIOUS ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS, SUCH AS THE SPEEDIER  
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ISSUANCE OF VISAS AND HANDLING OF MESSAGES. AGREEMENT WAS

REACHED ON THE PUBLICATION OF A FIVE-YEAR REPORT OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAM IN 1977.

4. IN A 45-MINUTE DISCUSSION OCTOBER 29 WITH DR. COOPER, SOVIET HEALTH MINISTER PETROVSKIY WARMLY PRAISED THE WORK OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE AND ENDORSED PLANS FOR MORE INTENSIVE COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE ON-GOING AREAS OF COOPRATION. HE NOTED BENEFICIAL RESULTS ON COOPERATION ON ARTIFICIAL HEART, CANCER DRUG THERAPY AND CARDIOLOGY. HE STATED THAT A BOOK HE IS CO-AUTHORING WITH DR. MICHAEL DEBAKEY ON CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY IS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLICATION IN MID-1977. PETROVSKIY STATED THE SOVIET ARE STILL AWAITING A VISIT BY DHEW SECRETARY MATHEWS, BUT THEY UNDERSTAND THAT THIS VISIT HAS BEEN DELAYED BECAUSE OF "INTERNAL PROBLEMS." DR. COOPER RESPONDED THAT HE HOPED THE INVITATION FOR SECRETARY MATHEWS CAN BE HELD OPEN.

5. THE SOVIET RECEPTION OF THE US DELEGATION WAS PARTICULARLY CORDIAL, AND DISCUSSIONS OF PROBLEMS WERE OPEN AND POSITIVE. ALTHOUGH CO-CHAIRMAN VENEDIKTOV DEFTLY HANDLED THE SOVIET DELEGATION TO THE MEETING, THERE WAS ONE INSTANCE OF DISAGREEMENT WITHIN THE SOVIET MEDICAL LEADERSHIP ON THE DIRECTIONS FOR SOVIET HEALTH RESEARCH; DEPUTY MINISTER BURGASOV IN A FORMAL SESSION ON OCTOBER 26 STRONGLY PLEADED FOR INCREASED SUPPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS VIS-A-VIS EXTENSIVE CURRENT EXPENDITURES ON TRADITIONAL CANCER RESEARCH. THERE WAS GENRAL AGREEMENT BY BOTH SIDES THAT THE COOPRATION PROGRAM HAS BEEN PROCEEDING VERY WELL AND THT THE INITIAL PERIOD OF EXPLORATION AND COORDINATION HAS PASSED; SUBSTANTIVE RESULTS FROM THESE EFFORTS SHOULD BE COMING AT AN ACCELERATED PACE WITHIN THE COMING YEARS.  
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